(b) to (d) Induction of capacity and expansion of related infrastructure are on-going processes. In order to ensure safety, security and orderly growth of air transport operations and keeping in view the availability of infrastructural facilities, as per existing policy, addition of some capacity is being permitted to the existing scheduled operators and new operators are allowed import of aircraft upto 50 seat capacity.

Making Captial's Hospitals more Patient Friendly

1934. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that major hospitals in the national capital are plauged with indiscipline, mismanagement, scams and crippled by strikes despite invoking ESMA in the hospitals;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what remedial measures Government propose to take to make the major hospitals in the capital more patient friendly and model hospitals in the country

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL BAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, during the strike of group 'C' & 'D' staff of Safdarjung Hospital, the smooth functioning of the hospital was affected to some extent. Their demands included creation of better career prospects, conditions of services etc.

(c) Necessary steps are taken by Govt. from time to time to improve the condition of the hospitals. The Govt. has set up a Committee to take a view on the proposals of Safdarjung Hospital *inter-alia* relating to the maintenance of hospital premises/wards/operation theatres and staff grievances relating to residential accommodation and career prospects etc. which require the approval of the Ministry.

Loaning policy in Regional Rural Banks

1935. SHRI WIANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government simply recognise the Regional Rural Banks as loaning agencies, but not to be profit making institutions;

(b) number of R.R.Bs now working in losses and heavy overdues with names of State; and

(c) whether Government have any plan for reviewing the existing loaning policy after the economic liberalisation policy by introducing kind credit/kind recovery to minimise the overdues to erop loans?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) were conceived as instruments of low cost decentralised rural banking in order to facilitate mobilisation of savings in rural areas and channelising them into productive activities. Sustained viability of the operations would be necessary if the RRBs are to meet these objectives.

(b) As per provisional data available from National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD), 164 out of 196 RRBs incurred losses in the year 1994-95. Further, the overall overdues of the RRBs as a percentage of demand as on 30.6.1994 were 53.77%. The overdues in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura were more than 60% of the demand.

(c) As a part of the ongoing exercise of restructuring the RRBs so as to make them effective instruments of rural credit delivery, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed the RRBs, inter-alia, to deploy 60% of incremental credit towards non-target groups and to engage in